NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AFTER HOURS WORKSHOP COVERS LATEST SCAMS

Columbia, SC..... Are you ready the holiday season? Do you know the latest scams and rip-offs? Before you start shopping, learn what scammers are doing to ruin the holiday season before it begins. The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs will present a free workshop entitled "Scams: Learn about the Latest Scams and How to Protect Yourself." The presentation will help consumers learn how to protect their identities and wallets, recognize phony deals, and practice good "consumerism." The workshop will be held Tuesday, November 20 at 5:45 p.m. on the 2nd floor of the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs located at 3600 Forest Drive in Columbia.

Director of Consumer Services and Education Donna DeMichael will discuss the bottom line about gift card scams, fake checks, phishing, the Nigerian scams and other spin-offs and provide tips on how to avoid becoming the next victim. Information will also be available on work-at-home scams and general consumer tips. "The holiday season is the perfect time for scammers to take advantage of unsuspecting consumers, which makes this workshop timely and relevant for everyone," said DeMichael.

After Hours is a free, monthly workshop held on the third Tuesday of every month to inform consumers about the latest consumer news and topics after business hours. For more information,

contact the Public Information Division at 803.734.4190, toll free in SC at 1.800.922.1594, or	
online at <u>www.scconsumer.gov</u> .	
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